

CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1. A hook apparatus adapted for use on a chain link fence constructed and arranged as follows:
 - A first element, vertically disposed, having two oppositely located end portions;
 - A second element, vertically disposed, integral with first said element and extending from the top one of the said two oppositely located end portions of said first element and disposed with said first element in an L-shape before said first and second elements are folded relative to one another and disposed with said first element in a generally parallel configuration after being folded;
 - Said first and second elements being separated by approximately 1.125 inches in their folded position;
 - A flat fold portion connecting said first and second elements when said first and second elements are in their folded disposition, said fold portion being disposed perpendicular relative to a vertical reference and perpendicular to both first and second elements;
 - Said flat fold portion having opposing staggered notches on the anterior side edge of said flat fold portion,
 - Said staggered notches having first notch centered approximately .431 inches from the union of the first element and the flat fold

portion and second notch centered approximately .431 inches from the union of the second element and the flat fold portion, both notches having an internal radius of approximately .156 inches;

- Said staggered notches and notch radius enhance engagement of the wire portions of the chain link fence at the bottom of the diamond pattern with said flat fold portion after said wire portion passes between first and second elements and the wire portions, securely fitting into first and second notches filling the notch radius;
- Said second element being integral with said other elements and extending away from flat fold portion, configured and arranged for supporting various articles suspended therefrom; and
- Said elements having generally constant width of approximately 2.20 inches.

2. The hook apparatus as claimed in claim 1 wherein:

- Said second element having a slotted key hole centered in the second element.

3. The hook apparatus as claimed in claim 1 wherein:

- Said Second element comprises a flat portion extending outwardly from said second element at an angle of approximately 90 degrees, said flat portion being bifurcated into two prongs having a distance between said prongs of approximately the diameter of the handle of a baseball bat.

4. The hook apparatus as claimed in claim 3 wherein:
 - Said second element includes a vertical flap at the end of each of said prongs, said flap extending approximately .25 inches at an angle of approximately 90 degrees.
5. A hook apparatus as claimed in claim 1 wherein:
 - Said second element comprises a straight flat fold portion extending at an angle of approximately 145 degrees from the second element.
6. A hook apparatus as claimed in claim 1 wherein:
 - Said second element comprises a straight flat fold portion, said second element having two mounting holes positioned along the center line of said second element positioned vertically one on top of another.
7. A hook apparatus as claimed in claim 1 wherein:
 - Said second element comprises a rounded curve portion having a radius of approximately .5 inches extending outward from said second element forming a quarter circle shape before terminating approximately .33 inches from said second element.
8. The hook apparatus as claimed in claim 1 wherein:
 - Said second element comprises a flat portion extending outwardly from said second element at an angle of approximately 90 degrees, said flat portion being flat and having a width of approximately one third of the width of the second element.

9. The hook apparatus as claimed in claim 8 wherein:

- Said second element includes a vertical flap at the end of the outwardly extending flat portion, said flap extending approximately .25 inches at an angle of approximately 90 degrees.

BEST MODES FOR CARRYING OUT THE INVENTION

Referring to the drawings wherein like numerals and descriptions represent like elements throughout, FIG. 3 depicts the hook of the present invention comprises three portions: a first element, a flat fold portion, and a second element. First and second elements are parallel to one another and vertically disposed, and interconnected to one another by a horizontally disposed flat fold portion having anterior edges notched.

Referring to FIG. 5 depicts one embodiment of the hook removably engaged with a portion of chain link fence having first element engaged with the back side intersecting wire elements, having flat fold portion engaged with the top side of intersecting wire elements with intersecting wire elements fitting into the notches of said flat fold portion, and having second element engaged with the front side intersecting wire elements as shown in FIG. 5, the chain link fence portion comprising of two wire elements having a perpendicular interconnecting point of intersection. Such chain link fences are well-known.

Referring to the flat fold portion depicted in Fig. 3, the notches located on the anterior edge of the flat fold portion are constructed and arranged to match diameter and spacing of the wire pattern of the well-known chain link fence providing secure union between the notches and wire permitting stable engagement of the embodiment to chain link fence.

In the embodiment depicted in Fig. 4 the second element is constructed and arranged to readily allow engagement to various hanger devices via the two through holes aligned with the vertical axis of the second element.

It is anticipated that the embodiment of the invention in Fig. 1-5 of the present invention may be used to suspend various articles from the second element via the two vertically aligned holes.

It is anticipated that the second element depicted in Fig. 1-5 of the present invention can be constructed and arranged in different shapes, lengths, and protrusions allowing for the suspension of sports equipment, outdoor lighting, construction equipment, and signage from chain link fence.

Figures 6-9 demonstrate various alternative embodiments of the invention utilizing various methods for suspending articles from the invention.

The hook is made from a flat piece of heavy gauge metal, such as cold roll steel and either powder coated, plated, or vinyl dipped. However, the particular medium of construction is not critical to the practice of the invention, so long as the medium is rigid enough for the intended purpose of the embodiment of the hook. Other suitable mediums for construction such as plastic or metal would be suitable for the practice of this invention.

It is anticipated the present invention may be coated with distinctive color, logos, numbers, and embossing for association with desirable affiliations.

INDUSTRIAL APPLICABILITY

The expected use of the present invention is for the temporary suspension of articles from chain link fence.

The present invention has been disclosed as a hook for temporarily suspending articles from chain link fence. Those skilled in this art will find it readily apparent that various alterations and modifications of an obvious nature may be made without departing from the spirit of the invention that lies within the unique notched engagement method, and all such alterations and modifications fall within the scope of the appended claims.